

From: Doug Rothert
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/28/02 12:19am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To whom it may concern,

I really intended to make this a longer, more thought out letter, but as the time draws to a close to express my concerns you will get the brief version:

1) I don't think the existing settlement will restore competition, and I believe it is too little too late. In fact its hard to imagine competition returning to my field (Software Engineering) within the next 5 years or so. I won't dare make a guess of anything beyond that. But the offer on the table is wrong and is a defeat for the consumer, the tax payer, and our nation as a whole. A chilling fact: in some colleges they have ceased teaching fundamental computer science classes such as compilers and operating system in favor of essentially training sessions for integrating things with Microsoft software. Their point being, which are you most likely to use on your job? Only one large company works on compilers or operating systems now...

2) If in fact you do go forward with this proposal and you are looking for someone to be on a team to oversee Microsoft technology, I offer my resume for the job. You can find it online at:

<http://www.oneheadcount.com:81>

I have an interesting past that would clearly disqualify me from being a candidate under the current guidelines of being totally impartial to anything and everything. I've spent most of the last 9 years working on products that combated Microsoft indirectly through my job at IBM. I've worked on OS/2, Netscape, and Java to name a few technologies... I also have a fair background on alternative OSes such as Linux and NetBSD. I tend to be drawn toward very large, complex systems of software and I am good at digging into the details, yet keeping the broader picture in mind. I am a technical philosopher of sorts, and I feel I could add balance to a team of experts in favor of competition.

Thank you for your time and effort,

Doug Rothert

doug_rothert@hotmail.com (yeah I know a Microsoft address... I needed it to play computer games with my buddies)

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